

# Questionnaire and Observations for Early Identification of Asylum Seekers Having Suffered Traumatic Experience

**PROTECT** Process of Recognition and Orientation of Torture victims in European Countries to facilitate Care and Treatment

## 1. What is the purpose of the Questionnaire?

- The PROTECT Questionnaire at hand has been developed to facilitate the process of receiving Asylum Seekers in accordance with the directives of the European Council.\*
- The Questionnaire facilitates the early recognition of persons having suffered traumatic experiences, e.g. victims of torture, psychological, physical or sexual violence.
- Asylum Seekers having suffered such traumatic experiences should be referred to professionals of the Health Care System at an early stage in the asylum process in order to avoid deterioration and chronic manifestation of health problems and enable adaptations in reception conditions and asylum procedure.

## 2. When to use the Questionnaire?

- Upon arrival in the receiving country first aid and physical shelter should be provided. Only after a period of rest (e.g. 7/10 days) it is appropriate to carry out an interview with the Asylum Seeker using this Questionnaire.
- The Questionnaire should be applied even under difficult circumstances, rather than being neglected.
- Sometimes psychological problems caused by traumatic experiences begin to appear later. In which case the Questionnaire should be filled out a second time and the rating may have to be corrected.

\* With respect to article 17 in particular but also to articles 15 and 20 the Council Directive laying down minimum standards for the reception of Asylum Seekers (2003/9/EC of 27<sup>th</sup> January 2003) and with particular respect to article 12 §3 and article 13 §3 indent a) of the Council Directive on minimum standards on procedures in Member States for granting and withdrawing international protection (2005/85/CE of 1<sup>st</sup> December 2005).

## 3. How to apply the Questionnaire?

- Before asking the set of questions, please read the following short introduction to the Asylum Seeker to inform him or her about the purpose of the Questionnaire and to support an environment of trust and reassurance.
- The Questionnaire establishes a rating system ("low risk", "medium risk" or "high risk") for having suffered traumatic experiences.
- After completing the Questionnaire a copy should be given to the Asylum Seeker with the recommendation that he or she submit this paper whenever meeting with a Health Care System professional, a legal advisor or a reception official.

### Text to be read before asking the following questions:

"Уважаемые дамы и господа ,

Европейским Союзом были изданы директивы с целью учесть индивидуальную ситуацию отдельных просителей политического убежища, которым нужна особая поддержка.

Вопросы, которые я хочу Вам задать, были подготовлены специалистами. Эти вопроса касаются Вашего здоровья. Цель вопросов – выяснить, есть ли у Вас особые потребности, чтобы предложить Вам соответствующую помощь.

Это значит, что на эти вопросы нет хороших или плохих ответов. Важно, чтобы Вы ответили на них как можно свободнее и естественнее.

Отвечая на вопросы, думайте о том, как вы чувствовали себя за последние две недели."

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This tool is not applicable to determine the legal status of a person and cannot be used to limit any claims or rights in later processes.

**In case of a “medium risk” or “high risk” rating the Asylum Seeker should be referred for medical and psychological examination!**

Questions		Yes	No
Questions refer to experiences of the past two weeks.			
1.	Вам часто бывает сложно заснуть?		
2.	У Вас часто бывают кошмарные сны?		
3.	У Вас часто бывают кошмарные сны?		
4.	Вы часто жалуетесь на другие боли?		
5.	Вы быстро раздражаетесь?		
6.	У Вас часто бывают воспоминания о болезненных событиях?		
7.	Вам часто бывает страшно?		
8.	Вы часто забываете какие-то вещи в повседневной жизни?		
9.	Вы потеряли интерес в том, что Вас окружает?		
10.	У Вас часто бывают проблемы сосредоточиться?		
<b>Number of questions answered « YES »</b>			

**Further observations:**

**Name of Asylum Seeker:**

**Nation of Origin:**

After the interview a copy of the questionnaire should be given to the Asylum Seeker with the recommendation that he or she submit this paper whenever meeting with a Health Care System professional, a legal advisor or a reception official.

**Date:**

**Rating:**  
Please mark the proper category with an X to indicate the level of risk of traumatisation

1-3	4-7	8-10
low risk	medium risk	high risk

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Organisation  
(stamp)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**